

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0016] as follows:

**[0016]** Fig. 11 is a side elevational view of a bracket according to the present invention including an elongate interchangeable cross brace with an ornamental appearance depicting an item related to sports paraphernalia, by way of example and not limitation, such as a soccer ball; and

Please amend paragraph [0017] as follows:

**[0017]** Fig. 12 is a side elevational view of a bracket according to the present invention including an elongate interchangeable cross brace with an ornamental appearance depicting a fishing lure; and;

**[0017.1]** Figure 13 is a side elevation view of an elongate interchangeable cross brace with an ornamental appearance depicting a hook for supportingly hanging another article.

Please amend paragraph [0019] as follows:

**[0019]** Each of the first and second elongate portions 18, 20 can have an aperture 28, 30 respectively, formed therein for releasably receiving opposite longitudinal ends 32, 34 of the interchangeable cross brace 26. The interchangeable cross brace 26 can be releasably assembled to the angled member 16 in a self-locking fashion by bending the outer ends of the first and second elongate portions 18, 20 away from one another sufficiently to allow insertion of the opposite longitudinal ends 32, 34 of the cross brace 26 into the corresponding apertures 28, 30 formed in the first and second portions 18 and 20. Removal of the bending force from the angled member 16 allows the first and second portions 18 and 20 to resiliently return in a self-locking fashion to an original orientation releasably holding complementary surfaces of the opposite longitudinal ends 32, 34 trapped within the apertures 28, 30 of the first and second portions 18 and 20. If desired, the angled member 16 can include stiffening ridges or ribs 36 in order to provide the desired rigidity, resiliency, and flexibility characteristics and/or if desired for ornamental decorative purposes. Fastener-receiving apertures 38 can be formed in one or both of the first and second elongate portions 18, 20 of the angled member 16 in order to secure the bracket 10 to

the vertically extending wall surface 14 and/or to connect the bracket 10 to the shelf 12. Alternatively, the shelf can be held in place with respect to the bracket 10 by gravity, or by an outer upwardly extending tab engaging an outer peripheral edge of the shelf (not shown). The first and second elongate portions 18, 20 can include enlarged regions 40, 42 respectively adjacent the outer ends of the angled member 16. The enlarged regions 40, 42 can correspond to the location of the opposing apertures 28, 30 for receiving the opposite longitudinal ends 32, 34 of the interchangeable cross brace 26.

Please amend paragraph [0021] as follows:

[0021] The cross space 26 can include ornamental indicia formed thereon relating to one of a holiday, a special occasion, a collegiate logo, or a professional team logo. By way of example and not limitation, as best seen in Fig. 3, the ornamental indicia can include the letters spelling "Baby", "Girl", "Boy", or the like. By way of example and not limitation, the ornamental indicia for holidays can include "Merry Christmas", "Happy New Year", "Happy Chanukah", "Happy St. Patrick's Day", or the like. The ornamental indicia 52 can include any logo, by way of example and not limitation, high school logos, college logos, university logos, semi-professional team logos, professional team logos, or the like. The cross brace 26 can also include an ornamental appearance 54. By way of example and not limitation, the ornamental appearance can include a pumpkin 56 as illustrated in Fig. 7, a football helmet 58 as illustrated in Fig. 8 which can include a logo 60, a baseball 62 as illustrated in Fig. 9, a basketball 64 as illustrated in Fig. 10, a soccer ball 66 as illustrated in Fig. 11, a teddy bear 68 as illustrated in Fig. 3, baby shoes 70 as illustrated in Fig. 4 or Fig. 5, a container 44 as illustrated in Fig. 6, a picture frame 46 as illustrated in Fig. 1 or 2, or a fishing lure 72 as illustrated in Fig. 12. It should be recognized that other ornamental appearance 54 and/or ornamental indicia 52 can be used in the present invention. In addition, it should be recognized that the ornamental indicia 52 can be used alone, or in combination with the ornamental appearance 54, or the ornamental appearance 54 can be used alone according to the present invention. The present invention can also include a cross brace 26 defining a hook as illustrated in Figure 13 for supportingly hanging another article. By way of

example and not limitation, the hanging article can include a baseball cap, a banner, a pennant, or the like.